

## National Pairs Qualifying Heats (merged with a 'normal' club session)

When clubs choose to run a heat of the National Pairs Championship on a normal club night, and if there are some pairs that did not wish to participate, it used to be the case that clubs were required to run separate sections, one for their National Pairs Heat, and a separate one for any players not wishing to participate.

A few years ago, the EBU relaxed this regulation, allowing 'non-competitors' to play in the same section as the National Pairs hopefuls. However it is still a requirement that separate ranking lists are produced, and master points awarded as if the two fields had competed as separate fields. For this reason, if you have enough pairs in each category, it would be far better that you do NOT combine the sections, but just run them separately. However, if you nevertheless choose to merge the events into one section, read on...

### For example:

12 pairs intend to compete in the National Pairs Heat, whilst 8 pairs do not wish to participate. The club may choose to run a 10-table combined event, which must be run as a single-winner movement (e.g. a Switched Mitchell).

Although the combined results (a 20-pair ranking list) might be used for other purposes, the ranking list must be split into two separate lists for the purposes of issuing Master Points, as if the event had been run as two separate sections initially:

1. A ranking list containing only the 12 competing pairs should be produced. Master Points should be awarded to the top third of these contestants (4 pairs), consisting of Blue Points at Regional Scale (3 x club scale), i.e. in multiples of 0.18 BPs (the equivalent of 18 LPs). In this example, the winning pair receives 0.72 BPs.
2. The top third of the non-competing pairs (3 out of 8) will get Master Points at club level only (i.e. in multiples of 6 LPs), as if this had been a normal single-winner 4-table club event.

Note that if either of the separate fields is not large enough to qualify for Master Points (i.e. if there are fewer than 6 pairs competing in that field) then no points can be awarded for that field. For example, if 11 pairs intend to compete in the heat, and only 5 pairs choose not to do so, then you can run a combined section of 8 tables (16 pairs), but enhanced Master Points can only be issued to the competing pairs, based on an entry of 5½ tables, **and none to the non-competing pairs**.

If there are fewer than 6 pairs competing for the National Pairs, then no enhanced awards can be given to these pairs. However, points can be issued based on the whole field, rather than just to the non-competing pairs, at normal club scale.

Except in the situation just described, no Master Points can be issued based on the combined results.

## Scoring:

No scoring software (currently, as far as we are aware) is capable of awarding Master Points in this way for a merged event. Considering the requirement also to submit files through the 'Universal Membership Scheme' (f.k.a. 'Pay to Play' or P2P), there are the following options:

*Please note that the following only applies if you have a merged heat of National Pairs competitors and non-competitors. If you have a genuine heat containing no non-competitors, or if you have fewer than six genuine competitors, a single P2P submission with the correct charge code & master point setting will suffice.*

### 1. If you use ScoreBridge:

(Please ensure that you have a sufficiently up-to-date release of ScoreBridge.)

Basically, three separate P2P files need to be submitted to the EBU:

- (a) A file containing the full results, but with Master Points suppressed. Normal P2P charge rates apply. This will ensure that the correct P2P charge is levied, and that the NGS is updated based on the full results.
- (b) A separate file must be created containing only the would-be National Pairs contestants, with MPs calculated accordingly.
- (c) Ditto, for the non-participating contestants.

For file (a): Score the combined event as normal, having selected the P2P code '10' – normal club event. When you get to the results screen, select 'Master Point Options FOR THIS EVENT' from the Options drop-down menu. Tick the box labelled 'Suppress Master Points', and click 'OK'. Then create and upload the P2P file as for any other event.

For files (b) and (c): You need to create separate new events for each of these. When you create the new event, in the 'Event Profile' screen select the 'Results Only' option. You should also select the P2P code '02' to ensure that you don't get charged twice.

For each new event, you will need to re-enter all the names for that event only, in ranking order, and their scores (percentages) as the pairs actually scored in the combined event. When you have entered all the names & scores, click on 'OK/Save'. ScoreBridge then asks you to confirm the Master Point settings 'for this event'.

For file (c), the settings should be standard club scale – no enhancements.

For file (b), you need to tick the box labelled 'EBU National Pairs – Club Heat'.

Create and upload a P2P file for each event in turn.

## 2. If you use PairsScorer (Jeff Smith):

As for ScoreBridge, three separate P2P files need to be submitted to the EBU, but there should be no need to create three separate events.

- (a) Score the combined event as normal; in the 'Event Details', ensure that the Master Points are suppressed ('none'), and that the P2P code is set to '10' (normal club event). Create the P2P file and submit to the EBU in the normal way.
- (b) In the 'Properties' screen, mark as 'missing' all the pairs that are not competing for National Pairs qualification. In the 'Event Details' screen, set the P2P rate to '02', and set the MP scale to 'PH – National Pairs Club Heat'. Create the P2P file, and submit it to the EBU in the normal way.
- (c) In the 'Properties' screen, restore the non-NP competitors, but mark as 'missing' all those competing for qualification. In the 'Event Details' screen set the P2P rate to '02', and set the MP scale to 'Club scale' (normal). Create the P2P file and submit to the EBU in the normal way.

## 3. Otherwise:

If you use another scoring system, it may be that you will be able to do something similar to either ScoreBridge or PairsScorer as above. Please check with the software author.

If you are unable to do so, then you will need to calculate the Master Points yourself.

You should only have to submit a single P2P file, with the normal charge code, and with Master Points suppressed. You then need to do one of two things:

Either... (a) Having uploaded the P2P file, you can amend the Master Point awards for each player individually via the club's page of the Members Area. Select the event from the 'Sessions' list, then in turn click on each player to bring up their record for that session. Amend their Master Points due, and click on Update.

This will obviously be quite tedious if you have a fairly large section (but if so, all the more reason that you should have had separate sections originally!)

Or... (b) Prepare a spreadsheet listing the points due, and send this to the EBU for the points to be credited. The spreadsheet should contain one line for each player, with eight columns containing (in this order): EBU Number; Surname; Forename; Local Points; Blue Points; Green Points; Gold-eligible Points; Net Points.

Even though the last three columns, at least, should always be zero, it would be helpful if they were filled in as such regardless. The spreadsheet should therefore look like the following:

| EBU No | Surname   | Forename | LPs | BPs | GPs | Gold | Net |
|--------|-----------|----------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| 106680 | Mitchell  | Ian      | 0   | 36  | 0   | 0    | 0   |
| 402908 | Clark     | Michael  | 0   | 18  | 0   | 0    | 0   |
| 417780 | Durrell   | Karen    | 12  | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0   |
| 424838 | Nancarrow | Gail     | 6   | 0   | 0   | 0    | 0   |

(etc.)